[English]

Assam Accord

2454. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the Assam Accord signed in 1985;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of provisions of the Accord implemented so far alongwith the number of prvisions yet to be implemented; and

(d) the time by which all the provisions of the accord are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) A Statement containing the requisite information is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Action has been taken to implement all the provisions of the Assam Accord. However, certain provisions of the Accord are of ongoing nature e.g. speedy all round economic development of Assam, measures to prevent infiltrators crossing or attempting to cross the international border etc. and therefore, it is not possible to specity time by which all the provisions can be said to be fully implemented.

Statement

The Government of India is fully committed to the implementation of the Assam Accord, 1985. Various measures have been taken in this regard. These include, inter-alia, the following:-

FOREIGNERS ISSUE

1. The Citizenship Act, 1955, Citizen Rules, 1956 and Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, were amended.
2. Eleven Tribunals under the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, are functioning in Assam for identifying foreigners of 1966-71 stream.
3. Special Requistration Officers have been appointed. Sanction was also accorded for the creation of 1280 additional posts under the Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners Scheme.
4. Sixteen Tribunals under the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 are functioning in Assam.

SAFEGUARDS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5. Setting up of Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, Guwahati is in progress. A sum of Rs. 8.65 crores has already been released.
6. Jyoty Chitraban (Film) Studio at Guwahati is being modernised and expanded.
7. Many important projects have been taken up for economic development of the State. The work on the oil refinery at Numaligarh is in progress. A gas based power project at Kathalguri is under implementation.
8. Two Central Universities, one at Tejpur and the other at Silchar, have been set up.
9. An IIT has been set up at Guwahati.

OTHER ISSUES

10. The power to issue citizenship certificates now vests only with the Central Government.
11. 2784 kms. of border roads and 896 kms. of fence along the Indo-Bangladesh border have been sanctioned. Out of these, 1729.67 kms. of border roads and 652.43 kms. of fence have been completed till 31.1.1997.
12. Ex-gratia payment was made to the next of kin of persons killed in the course of the agitation.
13. Disciplinary cases against the employees in connection with the agitation were reviewed.
14. In the matter of recruitment, orders were issued by the Central Government for relaxation in upper age limit upto a maximum of six years in the case of candidates, who had ordinarily resided in the State of Assam during the period 1.1.1980 to 15.8.1985.
15. NSA detenues in connection with the agitation were released.

Extra-Judicial Deaths

2455. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of extra-judicial deaths caused by the police, para-military forces and the army in Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Mizoram, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura during 1996-97;

(b) the number of custodial deaths occurred in the police or army custody during this period;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to curb this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Godowns In Assam

2456. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the location of the Food Corporation of India and the Central Warehousing Corporation Offices and godowns in Assam along with the capacity of each godown;